

U.S. Civil Air Patrol ... More Than Meets The Skies

HISTORY

- Founded in December 1941, one week before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, by more than 150,000 citizens concerned about the defense of America's coastline.
- CAP pilots flew more than one-half million hours, were credited with sinking two enemy submarines and rescued hundreds of crash survivors during World War II.
- Became the auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force in 1948; charged with three primary missions – aerospace education, cadet programs and emergency services.

THE ORGANIZATION

- Currently has more than 56,000 members.
- Includes eight geographic regions consisting of 52 wings (each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia).
- Includes approximately 1,600 units nationwide.
- Operates one of the largest fleets of single-engine piston aircraft in the world, with 530 currently in the fleet.
- Volunteer members fly nearly 110,000 hours each year at a cost of less than \$100 per aircraft hour flown.
- Maintains fleet of 1,000 emergency services vehicles for training and mission support.
- Provides counseling and ministry to CAP cadets and senior members through some 900 chaplain service personnel.

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Steve Fossett search and rescue operations began on Sept. 4. Continued high ops tempo, multi-wing involvement from the Nevada, California, Utah, Oregon, Colorado and Idaho wings who have devoted 769 flying hours through Sept. 12. Approximately 85 CAP members are involved on a daily basis; they have searched more than 10,000 square miles.

Intense international and national media response with Civil Air Patrol name at forefront. International outlets include BBC, ITN England, Japanese Newswire Service, Russian News Service, Canadian Broadcasting, Sydney Morning Herald. National media coverage includes CNN, Fox, MSNBC, *USA Today*, CBS, NBC, ABC, hundreds of local network affiliates. To date, CAP has been mentioned in more than 5,000 print and broadcast media stories.

- Hurricane relief efforts following Katrina, Ophelia, Rita and Wilma:
 - Deployed 1,800 members from 17 states and served 50,000 volunteer hours.
 - Flew 1,000 air missions and logged 2,000 hours of flight time.
 - Provided more than 2,000 time-critical aerial images of affected areas.
 - Distributed 30,000 pounds of relief supplies.
 - Ground teams visited 4,266 homes, contacting 8,500 residents.
- Nearly 3,000 search and rescue missions conducted in 2006 and 58 lives were saved.
- Helps safeguard the country by assisting other agencies in taking illicit drugs and money off the streets. The value of the drugs confiscated last year totaled \$1 billion.
- Participates in homeland security missions, including 9/11, Salt Lake City Winter Olympics, border patrol, terrorism preparedness and Washington, D.C., aerial protection exercises.
- CAP flew the first low-level fixed-wing aerial mission over "Ground Zero" following the 9/11 terrorist attacks and provided high-resolution imagery of the World Trade Center site and surrounding buildings for the New York State Emergency Management Office.
- CAP's fleet boasts 73 state-of-the-art general aviation aircraft equipped for use in conducting high-tech search and rescue and homeland security missions.

- CAP's satellite-transmitted digital imaging system transmits high-resolution aerial images of disaster areas to emergency managers on the ground in a matter of minutes.
- ARCHER or airborne real-time cueing hyperspectral enhanced reconnaissance uses spectral signatures to detect and pinpoint an object or multiple objects on the ground that might not be visible with the human eye.
- In 2000 responded to more than 2,000 distress signals from emergency locator transmitters and, at sea, to emergency position indicating radio beacons.

EXAMPLES OF FAMOUS MEMBERS

- Air Force Maj. Nicole Malachowski made history in June 2006 as the first female pilot (No. 3) on the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds demonstration team. Maj. Samantha "Combo" Glinski Weeks, who flies the No. 6 position, is the Thunderbirds' first female solo pilot. Both got their start in the CAP cadet program.
- CAP Lt. Col. Evelyn "Mama Bird" Bryan Johnson holds the Guinness world record for logging more flying hours than any woman on earth – 60,000-plus. She was recently enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame.
- Former CAP cadet Vern Raburn recently developed the Eclipse 500 VLJ, a very light jet poised to shake up the air travel industry by serving as an elite air taxi that will give travelers a new flight option.
- South Dakota Gov. Mike Rounds joined CAP as a cadet.
- Col. George M. Boyd, former commander of the Kansas Wing, and Florida Wing Lt. Col. Leo Gray were recently honored as former Tuskegee Airmen with the Congressional Gold Medal.
- Texas Wing Lt. Col. Sichan Siv from Cambodia taught refugees in the Killing Fields; he is a former United Nations ambassador who served under five U.S. presidents.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION

- Aerospace industry is graying with too few new engineers. CAP is helping by motivating young people to be excited about aerospace with hands-on activities and lessons, along with guidance on aviation and space careers.
- Educates more than 55,000 CAP members and thousands of students in America's classrooms.
- Develops, publishes and distributes aerospace education curricula for K through college classrooms.
- Supports more than 1,100 teacher-members with free national-standards based aerospace curricula.
- Provides classroom materials, teacher training and other educational aids at no cost to America's teachers and homeschoolers.
- Produces a comprehensive textbook, "The Journey of Flight; hardbound, 27 chapters, 640 pages, fully illustrated.

CADET PROGRAMS

- Serves nearly 22,000 youth ages 12-21.
- Encompasses multi-step program that includes aviation and aerospace education.
- Offers orientation flights in powered and glider aircraft, and flight training scholarships.
- Provides about 8 percent of each year's new class entering the Air Force Academy.
- Provides enlistment in Air Force at higher pay grade for cadets who have earned CAP's Gen. Billy Mitchell Award.
- Provides activities and competition for cadets at local, state, regional and national level.
- Provides an International Air Cadet Exchange program.

- A pilot Junior Cadet program reaching K-5th graders with an age-appropriate standards-based supplemental curricula is being used by more than 300 teacher-members and more than 8,000 youth in America's classrooms.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- Conducts 90 percent of federal inland search and rescue in the Continental U.S., as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and supports Joint Rescue Coordination Centers in Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico.
- Coordinates Air Force-assigned missions through the CAP National Operations Center at Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- Performs aerial reconnaissance for counterdrug and homeland security.
- Saves an average of 80 lives per year.
- Provides disaster-relief support to local, state and national disaster relief organizations.
- Transports time-sensitive medical materials, blood products and body tissues.
- Provides aerial and ground damage assessment, light transport, communications support and low-altitude route surveys for the U.S. Air Force, DoD, other federal agencies, and state and local partners.
- Assists federal agencies in the war on drugs.
- Conducts orientation flights for Air Force ROTC students, CAP cadets and teachers.
- Partners with the Department of Defense to conduct an aggressive drug demand reduction program that promotes a positive, drug-free attitudes in CAP members and school-age children in their communities.
- Maintains an extensive communications network to support CAP's missions and joint operations.